

EMPTY INDICATORS FOR WEIGHTED FAIR QUEUESABSTRACT

A scheduler for a network processor includes one or more scheduling queues. Each scheduling queue defines a
5 respective sequence in which flows are to be serviced. A
respective empty indicator is associated with each
scheduling queue to indicate whether the respective
scheduling queue is empty. By referring to the empty
indicators, it is possible to avoid wasting operating cycles
10 of the scheduler on searching scheduling queues that are
empty.